

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Interior Rear View Mirrors for Road Vehicles

We, WILMOT BREEDEN LIMITED, of Amington Road, Tyseley, Birmingham 11, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a Patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to interior rear view mirrors for road vehicles and has as its object the provision of such mirrors in a convenient form.

An interior rear view mirror in accordance with the invention comprises, in combination, a support adapted for connection to a vehicle, a mirror housing adjustably mounted on said support, a mirror mounted in the mirror housing, said housing being so shaped as to provide between an *in situ* lower edge thereof and the rear surface of the mirror a space in which is disposed means for mounting an electric light source, so as to provide, in use, interior lighting for the vehicle in which the mirror is mounted.

The invention will now be more particularly described with reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, of one example of an interior rear view mirror in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view of the rear side of the mirror shown in Figures 1 and 2; and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view taken in the direction X in Figure 1.

In the example shown in the drawings the rear view mirror includes a support comprising a mounting plate 5 and an integrally formed arm 6, the support being formed of synthetic resin material. The arm 6 is of channel-shaped cross-sectional form and a cover 7 is provided for enclosing wires 8 which extend along the interior of the channel.

Integrally formed at one end of the arm 6 is one half 9 of a socket, the other half 10

of which is formed separately and is secured to the half 9 integral with the arm by means of a screw 11. A ball 12, integrally formed on a mirror housing 13 formed of synthetic resin material, is disposed in said socket, so that the housing 13 is adjustably mounted on the support.

The housing 13 is formed with a back portion 14 to which said ball 12 is integrally connected, and a rim portion 15 which surrounds a glass or synthetic resin mirror 16. The back portion 14 of the housing adjacent to the ball 12 is formed to a channel-shaped cross-sectional configuration which extends to one edge of the housing. Thus the back portion 14 at this position is spaced from the mirror 16 and mounted on the base of the channel-shaped portion is a pair of spaced terminals 17 between which a festoon-type bulb 18 can be mounted. Wires 8 extending along the arm 6 are connected to said terminals 17 by means of connectors 19 sprung into holes in rear of the housing 13. The connectors 19 are covered by a cup-shaped cover 20 of synthetic resin material which is sprung into the space between a pair of projections 21 on the rear of the housing 13.

In use the rear view mirror described is secured by the mounting plate 5 to the interior of a vehicle roof 22. A rubber buffer 23 on the arm engages the windscreen 24 of the vehicle so that the support is immovably mounted. The mirror 16 can be adjusted, however, by virtue of the ball and socket connection between the housing and the support. The mirror is so mounted that the bulb 18, when in position between the terminals 17, is behind the mirror 16 and shines downwardly when energised. Thus there is no glare to distract the driver.

In an alternative arrangement (not shown) the support may be formed in two halves, each comprising one half of the mounting plate, one half of the arm and one half of the socket. When the two halves are assembled

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together grooves in the two halves of the arm are arranged in a face-to-face relation to form a bore. Thus no cover is required to conceal the wires extending along the length of the arm. 5

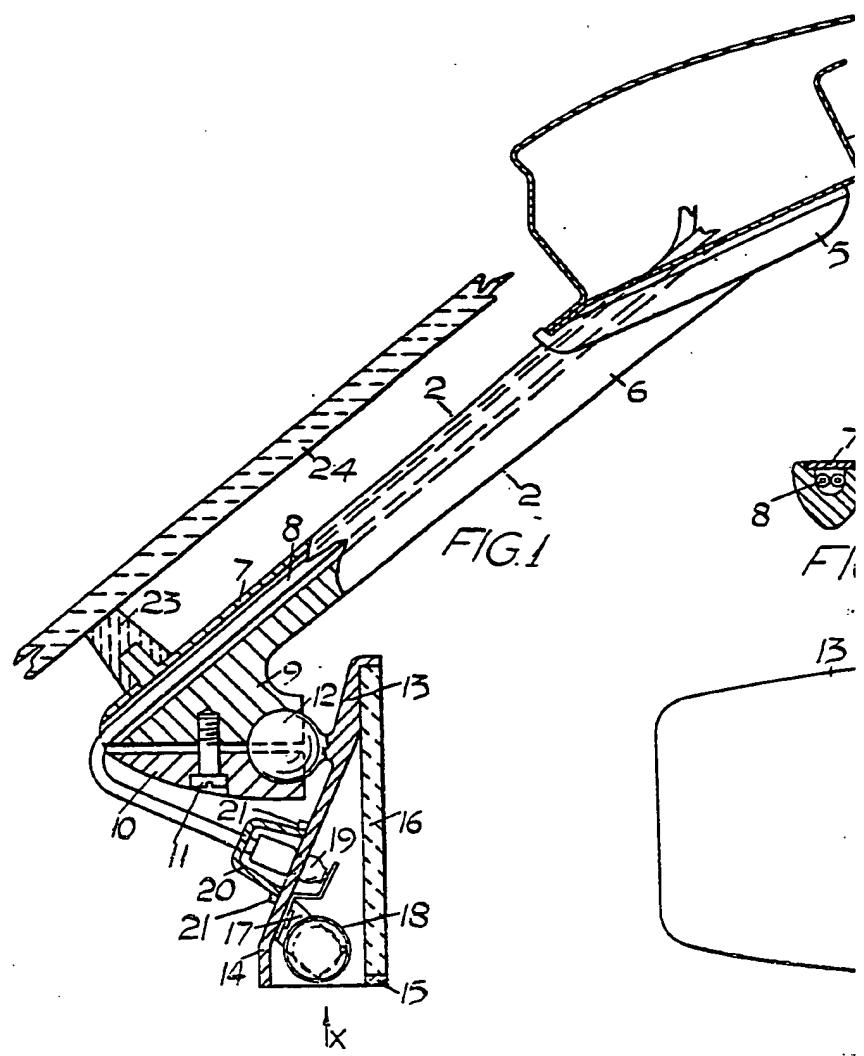
It is to be understood that bulbs other than those of the festoon-type may be employed and, if desired, a switch for the light source may be mounted in the mirror housing. 10

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

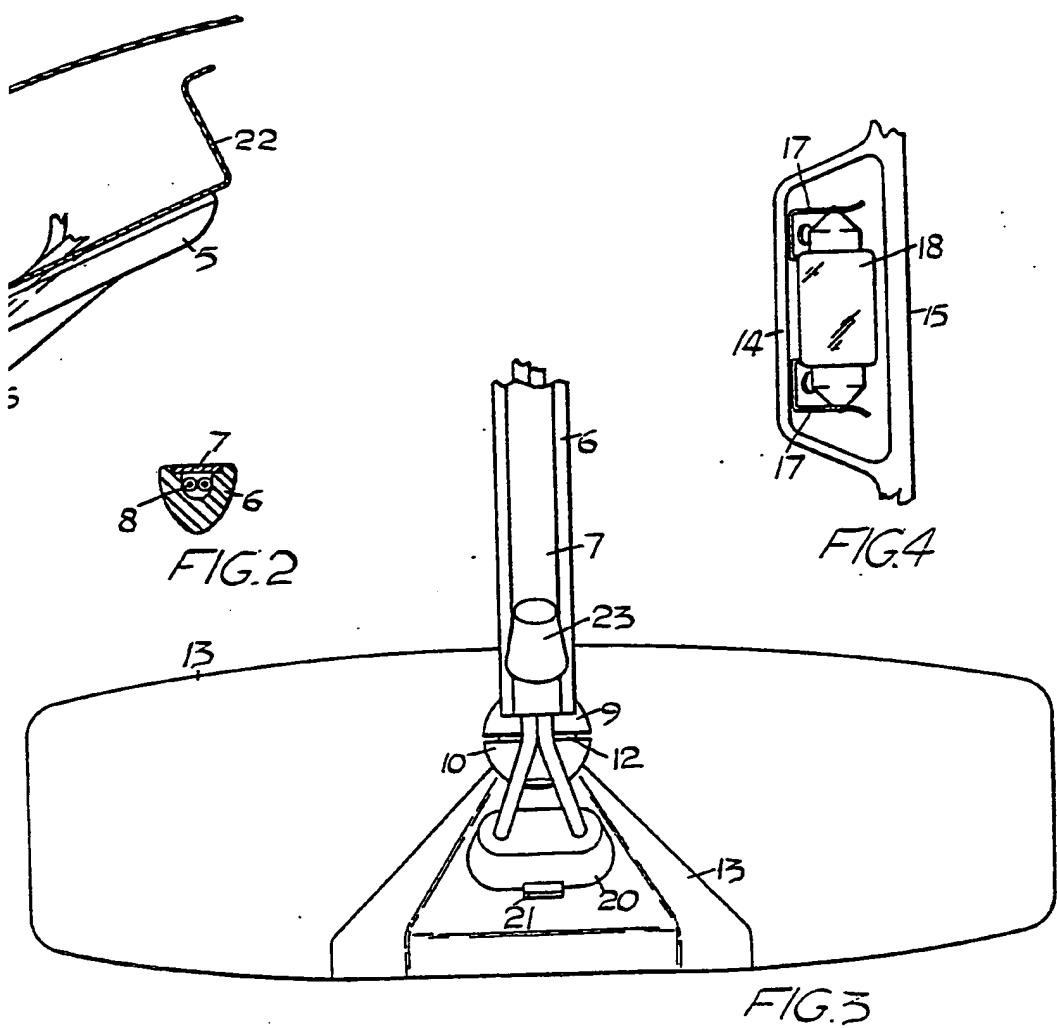
1. An interior rear view mirror comprising, in combination a support adapted for connection to a vehicle, a mirror housing adjustably mounted on said support, a mirror mounted in the mirror housing, said housing being so shaped as to provide between an in situ lower edge thereof and the rear surface of the mirror a space in which is disposed means for mounting an electric light source so as to provide, in use, interior lighting for the vehicle in which the mirror is mounted. 15
2. A mirror as claimed in claim 1 wherein the housing comprises a back portion and a rim portion and the back portion is formed to a channel-shaped cross-sectional configuration so as to provide the space between the lower edge of the housing and the mirror. 20
3. A mirror as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the support comprises a mounting plate and an integral arm. 25
4. A mirror as claimed in claim 3 wherein the arm is of channel-shaped cross-sectional form and is provided with a cover for enclosing wires extending along the arm. 30
5. A mirror as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4 wherein the arm is provided at one end with one half of a part spherical socket, the other half of said socket being formed separately and the back portion of the mirror housing having a ball engaged between said socket halves. 35
6. A mirror as claimed in claim 3 wherein the mounting plate and arm are formed in two halves each having half of a part spherical socket integrally connected thereto, and the mirror housing has a ball engaged between the socket halves. 45
7. A mirror as claimed in claim 6 wherein each half of the arm is formed with a groove so that when the halves are assembled together said grooves form a bore through which wires can extend. 50
8. A mirror as claimed in any preceding claim wherein said means for mounting an electric light source comprise a pair of spaced terminals. 55
9. A mirror as claimed in claim 8 wherein wires extending along the arm are electrically connected respectively to said terminals by means of connectors sprung into holes in the rear of the housing, the housing being formed of synthetic resin material. 60
10. A mirror as claimed in claim 9 wherein said connectors are covered by a cup-shaped cover of synthetic resin material engaged with the rear of the housing. 65
11. A mirror as claimed in claim 10 wherein there are a pair of projections on the rear of the housing the cup-shaped cover being sprung into the space between said projections. 70
12. A mirror as claimed in claim 3 or any claim dependent thereon wherein said arm is provided at the end remote from the mounting plate with a rubber buffer arranged to engage the windscreens of a vehicle to the interior of the roof of which the mounting plate is in use secured. 75
13. An interior rear view mirror substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings. 80

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Agents for the Applicants.

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